

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of December 20, 2004 is respectfully requested.

In order to make necessary editorial corrections, the entire specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the marked-up original specification and abstract pages is also enclosed, and the marked-up pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**". No new matter has been added by the revisions.

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected elected claims 1-9 and 13-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner cited several examples of terminology used in the claims that renders the scope of the claims unclear. In order to address these rejections, all of the original claims, including elected claims 1-9 and 13-22, have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 23-43. All of the new claims read on the elected invention of Group I, and have been carefully drafted so as to address the Examiner's formal rejections and so as to fully comply with all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's formal rejections of the original claims are not applicable to the new claims.

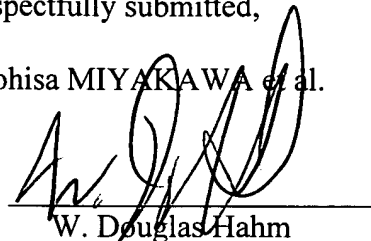
In items 3 and 4 spanning on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that elected claims 1-9 and 13-22 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the formal rejections. As indicated above, the new claims have been drafted so as to place the original claims in a proper form which complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Although some of the language of the original claims has been modified, no attempt has been made to modify the scope of the original allowed claims. Therefore, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowability, it is submitted that new claims 23-43 are clearly patentable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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